

STUDENTS BLAMED FOR DISGRACEFUL RIOT

Tokyo, AKAHATA, in Japanese, June 23--T

(Editorial: "The Principles of Marxism-Leninism Must Not be Distorted")

(Text) The act of violence committed by the Zengakuren (National Federation of Student Self-Government Associations--Ed.) at the Communist Party headquarters on June 1 has infuriated the whole party. The central committee has formed a special investigation committee to probe the incident. Details will be published later.

The June 1 incident was the most flagrant in the history of the Japanese Communist Party. The party rules guarantee every member of the party the right to criticize the central committee and other organizations of the party, but the main group of Zengakuren, in the league with other members of the party, rejected the guidance of the central committee, occupied the headquarters of the party, injured a member of the headquarters by mass assault, and even detained members of the central committee on the second floor of the main building from 11 o'clock in the morning until 6 o'clock in the evening, thus preventing them from taking meals and even from going to the rest rooms freely. No such act of destruction and violence has ever been reported in a headquarters building in the history of any communist party.

What have the most wicked violators of the rules been doing since then? They have been spreading distorted reports and lies in many places. Continuing to take an antiparty attitude, they are showing no signs of reflecting on their act. They do not in the least deserve to be called communists, since they have no intention of taking the responsibility for what they have done.

The Zengakuren leaders' rejection of guidance by the central committee, which constitutes a violation of the party rules, has continued over quite a long period of time. Their violent activity was not induced by the action that headquarters members took against them on June 1. Their act of violence was prearranged, as pointed out by the statement issued by the secretariat of the central committee "on the violation of party regulations by the National Federation of Student Self-Government Associations and on some other facts."

The antiparty incidents connected closely with their petty bourgeois and negativist attitudes against the principle of democratic centralism, the most important principle of Marxism-Leninism, and did not occur by accident. A study of the incident has revealed that it was caused by a certain group in accordance with prearranged "tactics," and their purpose was finally to bring about adoption of an antiparty resolution.

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Even if the incident had taken place within some other organization of the masses, it would be an intolerable incident, but the incident took place in the headquarters of the Communist Party, and the practitioners of violence even detained party leaders, including members of the presidium of the central committee and central committee candidate members, injured one of them, and adopted an unreasonable resolution calling for the dismissal of all members of the central committee. This openly challenged the organizational principles of Marxism-Leninism, as well as the rules and regulations of the party.

If the democratic centralism featured in the principle that the minority obeys the majority and the lower obeys the upper were to be destroyed and replaced by petty bourgeois terrorism, the Communist Party would no longer be the party of the vanguard of the Japanese working people. Whatever the difference of opinion may be, discussions should be conducted calmly and thoroughly according to the rules and regulations of the party. Never before has such great freedom of discussion been guaranteed each member of the party.

Lacking experience and training as regular members of the party, some student members of the party, led by elements with petty bourgeois tendencies, were too terroristic, challenging the central committee from the start. The Japanese Communist Party will not excuse such destroyers of the party because they are students or young. It is known to many people that such students are found not only in Japan but elsewhere.

Since the Hungarian incident, erratic petty bourgeois liberalism and revisionism have been found among young people in many countries. They show no respect for existing authority. Possessed of audacity and arrogance, they demand that their seniors grant them more freedom, and at the same time they are inclined to resort to bureaucratic tactics, coercion, and even violence. They are not at all consistent.

The anarchistic ideas of some students come partly from the petty bourgeois class to which they belong, and partly from the reactionary tendency called, "modernism," various types of revisionism, and the ideas of Trotsky's "fourth internationale," as disseminated by the American imperialists, the ruling circles of many countries, and scholars of their hiring.

They are trying to replace the principle of democratic centralism, the fundamental organizational principle of Marxism-Leninism, with a demand for unrestricted freedom of the individual. As the recent incident has revealed, not only do they deny the democratic centralist system, but they do not intend to reflect upon their own acts, even after ignoring others' rights and injuring other members.

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The point of the criticism by the central committee against the central committee members who were involved in the incident is that they did not take any measures to disperse the student when overwhelmed by the latter's threats, cries, acts of violence, and detention, thus failing to show disapproval of the processes of the conference and acting contrary to the policy of the central committee. The student members of the party who used violence are trying to get various levels of the party membership to justify their act. It is regrettable that part of their propaganda, full of falsehood, is somewhat successful. This fact should not be overlooked.

Some say that the cause of the trouble was inside the membership of the central committee while others, acting as mediators or bystanders, say that the central committee is as much to blame as the students. They must try to understand the essence of the problem. Still others are "advising" the students to admit the actual act of violence was an error on their part, for it would profit them to do so. Such people have no intention of making an issue out of the student's basic ideology, that is, petty bourgeoisism and antiparty tendencies, which caused them to resort to such action. Such an attitude will result in tolerating and even encouraging the antiparty tendencies of these destroyers of the party.

The enemies of the laboring class are using all means to cause disturbances within the Communist Party, now that the seventh convention is drawing near, and they are even seeking to make the convention a failure. We should not give our enemies even one chance. The only proper path for the party to follow is to abide by the principles of Marxism-Leninism and rally around the central committee in order to repulse whatever the enemies may do.